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13th October 2026

Dear Chris,

RE: Local Government Funding Formula Review

I am writing following a resolution of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council regarding the review of the Local Government Funding Formula.

The Council recognises and values the Welsh Local Government Association's role in representing authorities across Wales during discussions on local government finance.

While, like colleagues from all local authorities across Wales, we support a fair and transparent funding system based upon evidence and relative need, we are concerned that changes to the formula could adversely affect authorities whose communities continue to experience significant deprivation and high levels of service demand.

We believe it is essential that the review protects appropriate recognition of factors including poverty, health inequalities, social care pressures, Additional Learning Needs and wider demographic challenges.

As the third largest authority in Wales and one of the County Boroughs where deindustrialisation has been felt keenly, we are particularly concerned that a redistribution of existing resources between authorities, without addressing the wider financial challenges facing local government, would simply transfer pressures from one set of communities to another rather than resolving the underlying issues.

The Council therefore asks that the WLGA continues to advocate for a balanced review process that is fully evidence-led, transparent and focused on the impact upon residents and local services.

We would welcome the opportunity to work with the WLGA and partner authorities to ensure that the interests of all communities across Wales are appropriately reflected.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Crimmings

Arweinydd y Cyngor ac Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Cyllid

Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance

Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol dros Ward Gorllewin Aberdâr a Llwydcoed

County Borough Councillor for the Aberdare West & Llwydcoed Ward

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